



## THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

### MINUTES

#### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

#### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2006

Mel Katz, Chair

Matthew Hervey  
Susan Lew  
Judy McCarty  
MaryAnne Pinter  
Natalie Rencher  
Katie Sullivan

#### ATTENDANCE

##### Commissioners:

**Present:** Mel Katz, Matthew Hervey, Susan Lew, Judy McCarty,  
MaryAnne Pinter, Katie Sullivan

**Absent:** Natalie Rencher

**Staff:** Anna Tatár, Library Director; Meryl Balko, Deputy Director;  
Margaret Kazmer, Deputy Director; Darren Greenhalgh, Senior  
Civil Engineer; Jay Hill, Director of Development; Dianne  
Parham, Senior Management Analyst

**Public:** Vickie Church/Friends of the San Diego Public Library;  
Thomas Jamieson, Serra System Advisory Board; Dana Springs,  
Commission for Arts and Culture

#### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

#### NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy McCarty thanked Matthew Hervey for the donation of the *Dear Miss Breed* books.

#### REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Vickie Church

There will be a President's Orientation on March 25 to the Friends presidents which will include overviews of their responsibilities, the library structure, the Library Foundation, and the Board of Library Commissioners. There will be a series of activities directed at the presidents, treasurers,

membership chairs, and book sale chairs. The annual meeting will be September 9, 2006. Friends reported that the event held on Thursday and Friday for *Dear Ms. Breed* was outstanding.

**SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD:** Tom Jamieson

Tom Jamieson did not attend the January Serra System Advisory Board meeting. The \$2,500 for the Summer Reading Program will be allocated to a Serra committee.

The Central Friends has given the Central Library \$12,500 through book sales and selling on Amazon.com.

**CHAIR'S UPDATE:** Mel Katz

Commissioner Katz talked about the events regarding *Dear Miss Breed*, including an article in the Union Tribune, a lecture in the Central Library auditorium by Joanne Oppenheim, and the Friday donor event at which the Mayor was present. In addition to the books donated by Matthew Hervey, Alice and Doug Diamond paid for the catering for the Friday event, and buttons were distributed. The Mayor indicated that he would join the Development Team to raise money for the Main Library.

Commissioner Katz announced that Anna Tatár and he met with the Work Force Partnership to explore establishing career centers at City branches. The first site to be explored, for a future partnership program, will be the Serra Mesa Library.

**DEPUTY CHIEF'S UPDATE:** Ellen Oppenheim

Deputy Chief Oppenheim was absent. She has accepted a position with the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, and resigned from the City effective March 17<sup>th</sup>. Her replacement has not been announced. [*On March 13, Mayor Sanders announced Ted Martinez, Jr. would be appointed in her place.*]

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Anna Tatár

Director Tatár asked Deputy Director Kazmer to provide a report.

- Related to *Dear Miss Breed*:
  - On February 23, Joanne Oppenheim gave a presentation to high school students in the auditorium at the Central Library.
  - On February 24<sup>th</sup>, a special event for teens was held at Torrey Pines High School. Students prepared with help from teacher's guides on the book by Scholastic Books, the publisher.
  - The Friends of the Central Library paid the installations cost of the exhibit now on display on the first floor of the Central Library, and for the framing of the posters, which were signed by Joanne Oppenheim.
  - Miss Breed's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary is March 19.

- The Wangenheim room currently has an exhibit from Miss Breed's personal collection, which includes Japanese dolls and a nameplate made by one of the children while at Poston. The nameplate is a piece of mesquite wood in which Miss Breed's name was carved with a bed spring.
- An application for an \$80,000 grant from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program has been made to write a play based on the book which will be shown at the Lyceum Theater and also filmed. It also includes a dance performance at the City Heights Performance Annex.
- The book was launched on February 19<sup>th</sup>, the National Day of Remembrance.
- On February 20<sup>th</sup>, Councilmember Jim Madaffer proclaimed February 21, 2006, to be the San Diego Day of Remembrance, and presented Mich Himaka of the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego with the proclamation.
- Director Tatár added that Joanne Oppenheim's son designed the poster for the event, and that the Library enjoyed partnering with the San Diego Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego.
- On February 25, READ/San Diego held its 18<sup>th</sup> annual recognition dinner attended by 350 learners and tutors. Councilmember Toni Atkins was in attendance and gave an inspiring talk.

Director Tatár asked Jay Hill to provide a report on Development:

- A donation of \$10,000 was received at the Friday night donor recognition event attended by Mayor Sanders and Joanne Oppenheim.
- San Diego Magazine has contacted the Development Office for pictures of the event.
- Gifts and new donors are up over last year.
- The April 6 Carnegie Society Tea has been postponed. The date to be announced.
- Development staff now includes two interns, Larry Donofrio, Susan Howe, who has written grant proposals to Qualcomm and Las Patronas, and Kim Moore. Kim Moore helped oversee the Dear Miss Breed event, and previously worked with Sally Thomas in the Development Office as well as for READ/San Diego, and other assignments within the Library, and for Judy McCarty.
- A mailing piece will be going out in the next week under Commissioner Katz's signature.

Dale Petroskey, President of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, will be at the House of Hospitality at 11 am on March 19<sup>th</sup> for an event sponsored by Society for American Baseball Research (SABR). The San Diego Public Library, in partnership with SABR, is building the largest collection on baseball west of the Mississippi.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **10.a Library System Update**

Darren Greenhalgh, Senior Civil Engineer, Engineering & Capital Projects, provided the update on library projects:

- Main Library
  - The process is moving forward for Plan review of Code Compliance.

- Demolition was held up for hazardous waste insurance and handling, but should be moving forward soon.

- The start date for the project has been moved to August 1, which may impact the budget.
- Otay-Mesa Branch scheduled to open on April 7.
- Serra Mesa Branch is at 75% completion.
- North University Community Branch is at 15% completion; the foundation is done.
- Logan Heights Branch parking construction has started.
- Mission Hills Branch project has had three community meetings.
- Paradise Hills Branch project has had community meetings, with site selection still to be determined.
- Balboa Branch project bridging documents contract has been awarded.
- Skyline Branch project has had meetings with the community and the Councilmember.

10.a.(1) Dana Springs from the Commission for Arts and Culture presented a slideshow featuring the planned Public Artwork at North University Library. A handout about the artist Blue McRight's vision was also included.

In response to questions from the Library Commission, Dana Springs responded that the artist had been selected late in the process and was not involved with the architect or the colors, but tried to create artwork that would complement both. Katie Sullivan served on the selection committee. Dana Springs also addressed accessibility issues, such as making the art approachable, but safe, and providing audio information on the website in order to help achieve the equality of experience that is mandated by the State of California.

#### **10.b Budget Update**

Commissioner Katz said that in the next ten days, the City will be hearing from actuaries regarding the requirements to fund the pension. Katie Sullivan is now heading the Commission's budget sub-committee and will be meeting with Anna Tatár to review budget options for the library. MaryAnne Pinter indicated that she would be willing to also serve on the committee. Anna Tatár distributed a memo from Andrea Tevlin, the Council's Independent Budget Analyst, showing the schedule for the budget. [Budget hearings for the Library will be held on May 3]. There was a discussion about the 2002 Financing Plan and changes that have happened in the City since that plan was approved by Council, and what impact those changes may have on the library system. .

#### **10.c Legislative Update**

None.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

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#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Katz adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

ANNA TATÁR  
Library Director

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